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TOUCHDOWN CLUB OF WASHINGTON, SHERATON PARK
HOTEL, WASHINGTON, D.C., 6.30 P.M.
SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 1974.

1st Honorary

IT IS A GREAT PLEASURE FOR ME TO
ASSIST IN PRESENTING THIS AWARD.

BUT BEFORE I DO THAT LET ME TAKE
A MOMENT TO TELL YOU WHAT AN INSPIRATION IT
IS TO SEE SO MANY FINE PEOPLE BEING HONORED
HERE TONIGHT, NOT ONLY BECAUSE THEY ARE
FINE SPORTSMEN AND DEDICATED ATHLETES, BUT
ALSO BECAUSE THEY ARE FINE HUMAN BEINGS
AND DEDICATED CITIZENS.



Bennie Oosterbaan - Jan 1949

*M. Lynn Washington
Gov. of Washington*

WE RECOGNIZE EACH OF THESE PEOPLE
IN PART BECAUSE OF THEIR INDIVIDUAL
EXCELLENCE AND THE ACHIEVEMENTS WHICH HAVE
RESULTED FROM THEIR OWN DILIGENCE AND HARD
WORK. BUT WE ALSO RECOGNIZE THEM AS
REPRESENTATIVES OF THEIR ASSOCIATES -- THE
TEAMMATES WHO SUPPORTED THEM, THE COACHES
WHO INSPIRED THEM, THE OPPONENTS WHO
CHALLENGED THEM, THE FRIENDS AND FAMILIES
AND FANS WHO CHEERED THEM ON. ALL OF THESE
GROUPS ARE A PART OF THE GREAT SPORTS
SCENE IN AMERICA, AND ALL OF THEM HAVE
HELPED TO MAKE SPORTS A VALUABLE PART OF
OUR NATIONAL LIFE.



THE AWARD I AM PRESENTING TONIGHT
IS NAMED AFTER ONE OF THE MOST DISTINGUISHED
AMERICANS I HAVE EVER KNOWN -- A GREAT
LEGISLATOR AND A GREAT SPORTS FAN --
SPEAKER SAM RAYBURN. THE AWARD BEARS THE
SAME NAME THAT HE WAS KNOWN BY DURING HIS
MANY YEARS OF SERVICE IN WASHINGTON; IT'S
CALLED THE "MR. SAM" AWARD. THIS AWARD
IS PRESENTED EACH YEAR TO A GOVERNMENT
FIGURE WHO HAS MADE A SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION
TO SPORTS.



THIS YEAR'S MR. SAM AWARD GOES TO
A MAN WHO LETTERED IN FOOTBALL, TRACK AND
SWIMMING WHEN HE WAS IN COLLEGE AND WHO
BECAME A FAMOUS RADIO SPORTS ANNOUNCER.
HIS NICKNAME THEN WAS "DUTCH" REAGAN -- AND
I MIGHT SAY THAT AS ONE WHO REPRESENTED
GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN IN THE CONGRESS FOR
25 YEARS, YOU COULDN'T HAVE A BETTER
NICKNAME THAN THAT.

*Incidentally, he is the first
Governor & the 13th
person so honored.*



2	-	Presidents
1	-	Vice President
5	-	Yours
1	-	Senate
2	-	Sup. Ct
1	-	Sec. Service

LATER, OF COURSE, HE WENT ON TO THE MOVIES. THERE AREN'T MANY AMERICANS MY AGE WHO DON'T REMEMBER RONALD REAGAN IN HIS ROLE AS THE GREAT GEORGE GIPP OF NOTRE DAME. IN THIS REGARD, I MUST SAY I'M A BIT ENVIOUS OF HIM -- NOT BECAUSE HE GOT TO PLAY THAT ROLE BUT BECAUSE HE STILL LOOKS THE SAME NOW AS HE DID THEN.



TODAY, OF COURSE, RONALD REAGAN
IS THE DISTINGUISHED GOVERNOR OF OUR MOST
POPULOUS STATE -- AND IN THAT ROLE HIS
CONTRIBUTIONS TO SPORTS CONTINUE TO BE
SUBSTANTIAL ONES. AND THAT IS WHY HE IS
RECEIVING TONIGHT THE MR. SAM AWARD FROM
THE WASHINGTON TOUCHDOWN CLUB.

INCIDENTALLY, RON, I UNDERSTAND
WE MIGHT GIVE YOU THIS AWARD AGAIN NEXT
YEAR IF YOU'LL GIVE US THE ^{*San Diego*} PADRES.

-- END --





39TH ANNUAL AWARDS DINNER—JANUARY 19, 1974

THE TOUCHDOWN CLUB OF WASHINGTON

2000 L STREET, N.W.

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20036

(202) 223-1542



CHARLES H. SCHOOLS
PRESIDENT

SIKE SHARIGAN
GENERAL CHAIRMAN

Donor Card for the Touchdown Club Mr. Sam Award

The Touchdown Club's Mr. Sam Award, named in memory of the late Sam Rayburn, is annually presented not to a star of the gridiron or the diamond but to a governmental figure who has fostered and contributed to sports. Tonight's recipient is one of the nation's most respected leaders, a man who has made it to the top in two distinctly different professions. He is the Honorable Ronald Reagan, Governor of California.

A student leader athlete in his college days at Eureka College in Illinois, Governor Reagan launched successful careers in three fields: SPORTSCASTING, ACTING, AND POLITICS. As a sportscaster, he broadcast home games for the Chicago Cubs, Chicago White Sox, as well as Big Ten and Notre Dame Games.

He earned Three Varsity Letters and was President of his Senior Class. His football playing background led the way for him to portray Football Hall of Famer, George Gipp in the Knute Rockne Story. He also starred in 50 film features. Governor Reagan served as President of the Motion Picture Council for two terms and President of the Screen Actor's Guild for six terms.

In 1966 he bid for and won the Governorship of California, and the people of that great state returned him to office in 1970. It is my pleasure and privilege to present the Mr. Sam Award to the Governor of California, The Honorable Ronald Reagan.



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CHARLES H. SCHOOLS
PRESIDENT

January 14, 1974

SIKE SHARIGAN
GENERAL CHAIRMAN

The Honorable
Gerald Ford
Vice-President
of the United States
Washington, D. C.

The Touchdown Club is looking forward with great pleasure to having you join us on Saturday evening, January 19, 1974 on the occasion of our Annual Dinner. We would greatly appreciate it if you would participate in our program of awards by presenting our most distinguished award - the Mr. Sam Award, presented in the memory of the late Sam Rayburn, to a Governmental Figure Who Has Fostered and Contributed to Sports. This year's recipient is the Honorable Ronald Reagan, Governor of California. To assist you in preparing your remarks, there is enclosed a "donor" card with information regarding Mr. Reagan which will give you some idea of our format.

For your information in arranging your schedule, the first official function of the dinner is the Press Session beginning at 5:00 p.m. in the Virginia Room of the Sheraton Park Hotel, followed at 6:00 p.m. by the Distinguished Guests Reception in the Maryland Room. If possible we would appreciate your being present for these pre-dinner activities. The banquet begins promptly at 7:30 p.m. in the Sheraton Ball Room.

The Touchdown Club Hospitality Room (Suite A-300) will be open to all our guests beginning on Friday afternoon. Please feel welcome to join us there at any time.

Sincerely yours,

Sike Sharigan
Sike Sharigan
General Chairman

Enclosure.

(Koch/Huebner) DG

January 18, 1974



VICE PRESIDENT'S REMARKS: WASHINGTON TOUCHDOWN CLUB

It is a great pleasure for me to assist in presenting this award.

But before I do that let me take a moment to tell you what an inspiration it is to see so many fine people being honored here tonight, not only because they are fine sportsmen and dedicated athletes, but also because they are fine human beings and dedicated citizens.

We recognize each of these people in part because of their individual excellence and the achievements which have resulted from their own diligence and hard work. But we also recognize them as representatives of their associates -- the teammates who supported them, the coaches who inspired them, the opponents who challenged them, the friends and families and fans who cheered them on. All of these groups are a part of the great sports scene in America, and all of them have helped to make sports a valuable part of our national life.

The award I am presenting tonight is named after one of the most distinguished Americans I have ever known -- a great legislator

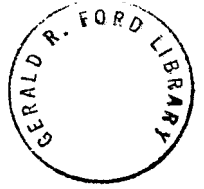


and a great sports fan -- Speaker Sam Rayburn. The award bears the same name that he was known by during his many years of service in Washington; it's called the "Mr. Sam" award. This award is presented each year to a government figure who has made a special contribution to sports.

This year's Mr. Sam award goes to a man who lettered in football, track and swimming when he was in college and who became a famous radio sports announcer. His nickname then was "Dutch" Reagan -- and I might say that as one who represented Grand Rapids, Michigan in the Congress for 25 years, you couldn't have a better nickname than that.

Later, of course, he went on to the movies. There aren't many Americans my age who don't remember Ronald Reagan in his role as the great George Gipp of Notre Dame. In this regard, I must say I'm a bit envious of him -- not because he got to play that role but because he still looks the same now as he did then.

Today, of course, Ronald Reagan is the distinguished Governor of our most populous State -- and in that role his contributions to sports continue to be substantial ones. And that is why he is receiving



tonight the Mr. Sam Award from the Washington Touchdown Club.

Incidentally, Ron, I understand we might give you this
award again next year if you'll give us the Padres.

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REMARKS BY VICE PRESIDENT GERALD R. FORD
BEFORE THE TOUCHDOWN CLUB OF WASHINGTON
SHERATON PARK HOTEL
WASHINGTON, D.C.
6:30 p.m. SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 1974



FOR RELEASE IN SUNDAY AM's

It is a great pleasure for me to assist in presenting this award.

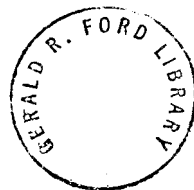
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(more)



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